

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-10. (CANCELLED)

11.(NEW) A vertical structure (1), having both functions of a seat and/or a partition screen, comprising a pair of upright poles or supports, characterized in that it comprises a second quadrilateral articulated structure, or frame (2), which is composed of rods (2a, 2b, 2c), a panel (3) being attached thereto; said frame (2) being adapted to allow the vertical structure (1) to act as a seat when the rods (2b) of the frame (2) are oriented perpendicular to the upright supports, or as a partition screen when the rods (2b) and the upright supports coincide, in the position of partition screen the vertical portion of the panel (3) and the portion of sitting panel are coplanar.

12.(NEW) A vertical structure (1) as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the frame (2) has end stops (7) mounted on the rods (2b), which abut against the upright supports when the seat position is reached.

13.(NEW) A vertical structure (1) as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that mechanical or hydraulic means are provided between the frame (2) and the structure (1), such as return springs (20) and/or hydraulic pistons, which are suitably disposed to cause the automatic return from the seat position to the partition screen position.

14.(NEW) A vertical structure (1) as claimed in claim 13, characterized in that the mechanical means may be also replaced by balance weights hidden in the upright supports or as extensions of the rods (2b) of the frame (2).

15.(NEW) A vertical structure (1) as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the rods (2b) of the frame are hinged to the vertical structure (1) by special pins (9, 11).

16.(NEW) A vertical structure (1) as claimed in claim 12, characterized in that the lower rods (2b) are hinged with a stationary rod (15), which is oriented transverse to the upright supports.

17.(NEW) A vertical structure (1) as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the panel (3) is a single piece, which is secured between the rods (2c) and the stationary rod (15).

18.(NEW) A vertical structure (1) as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that the panel (3) may be made of fabric, of a synthetic material or other materials adapted to withstand the weight of a person.

19.(NEW) A vertical structure (1) as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the upright supports may be bent through an essentially right angle, and be joined together by cross members (17, 18) or alternatively by a special plate for direct fastening thereof to the floor.

20.(NEW) A vertical structure (1) as claimed in claim 19, characterized in that the upright supports may also be of the straight type and be fastened to the floor by anchor plates or flanges.